

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY • 1910 UNIVERSITY DRIVE • BOISE, IDAHO 83725

Department of English

18 August 1987



Mr. Mark Strotchkov, Director
Gosfilmofond
Stancia Bielye Stolby
Moskovskaia oblast
USSR

Dear Director Strotchkov:


I am delighted to report that *Told In The Hills* arrived in Boise this morning. I am making arrangements now to screen the film-- and to have a native-born Russian attend this first screening to translate Russian subtitles for me! (Incidentally, my apologies for not writing you in Russian. I deeply appreciate your willingness to correspond in English.)

Enclosed is an article about *Told In The Hills* which was published in the Lewiston, Idaho, *Morning Tribune*. Lewiston is where some of the film was shot in 1919; coincidentally, Lewiston is near an Idaho town named Moscow--of course! This article was written before your letter or the film arrived. I will now clarify the situation and I will be certain to send you further stories.

The silent news reel mentioned in the enclosed story was filmed, I suspect, by Mr. Al Hilton, a Lewiston theatre owner and the film promoter who urged the Famous Players Company to come to Idaho. I have recently been in contact with an old friend of Mr. Hilton (who died last November at age 96) and have been promised copies of photographs taken by Mr. Hilton of the Famous Players film crew on location. I will try to get you copies of some of these photographs for Gosfilmofond. (Some stills from the film appear in Kevin Brownlow's book *The War, The Wilderness, and The West*. Brownlow, however, believed *Told In The Hills* to be a lost film!)

Director Strotchkov, if by any chance you or members of your staff are attending the Pordenone Film Festival this September in Italy, I will be attending (showing Nell Shipman films) and I would like to thank you in person. If not, please accept my sincere gratitude for all your assistance.

Faithfully yours,


Tom Trusky



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Told in the Hills; Trusky correspondence